

**TECHNIQUES FOR DETECTING POLARITY REVERSALS OF A DISK
DRIVE READ/WRITE HEAD**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0056] Techniques are provided for detecting and correcting polarity reversals in signals generated by read/write heads that are used to read magnetic data. Directional patterns are stored in regions of each data track. The directional patterns are used to indicate whether the read/write head has reversed polarity. The read sensor reads the directional patterns along with other data stored on the disk. Electronic circuitry decodes the directional patterns to determine if the read/write head has reversed polarity. If the circuitry determines that the polarity of the read/write head has reversed, the circuitry reverses the polarity of output signals generated by the read sensor to correct for the polarity reversal of the head.

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